

Governor Baldacci's
Task Force Promoting Safer Chemicals in Consumer Products
Wednesday, February 07, 2007 12:30 PM-3:30 PM
Cross Office Building, Augusta, Maine
MINUTES

Attendees

Task Force members: David Littell, Brian Dancause, Kathy Murray, Sharon Tisher, Nick Bennett, Michael Belliveau, Stacie Beyer, Mark Dobrovolny, John Wise, Mindy Davis

Other Task Force: Ginger Jordan-Hillier, staff

Guests: Mark Hyland DEP, Ken Cook Environmental Working Group

Interested Parties: Jeremy Caron/DAFS, Jetta Antonakas/SPO, Steve Rosario/American Chemistry Council, Rep. Ted Koffman, Carole Cifrino/DEP David Wright/DEP, Amy Watson/House Majority staff, Amanda Sears/EnvHealth Strategy Center, Murray Carpenter/ Maine Public Radio, Harris Parnell/Toxics Action Center

Work Groups meetings:

Chemical Policy and Information met jointly.

Guests Mark Hyland, DEP: Discussion on regional organizations and handout on IMERC
<http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/imerc/imercbroch.pdf> |

Mike Belliveau Handouts:

REACH Q&A

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/06/488&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Core Legal Test in a Chemicals Law (attached) and discussion

Chemical Action Pyramid (print copy only)

Assignments:

Ginger: Contact: Terri Goldberg re: Interstate Clearinghouse

Sharon Tisher: Contact Dianne Hemingway US Steelworkers re: MSDS

Mike Belliveau: Additional info on definition of very persistent very Bioaccumulative

Stacie Beyer and Jim Dill: Global Harmonization System info

Kathy Murray: Invite to Dr. Tom Green of the IPM institute/ group OK 'd speaker

Notes from Kathy Murray Jan 24, 2007 Info and Policy Subcommittee:

The Information subcommittee met jointly with the Policy Subcommittee to discuss issues of relevance to both subcommittees before breaking for brief meetings of the individual subcommittees.

Present: Policy Subcomm: David Littell, Deb Rice, Sharon Tisher, Steve Pinette, Mike Belliveau ; Info Subcomm: Kathy Murray, Stacy Beyer, Nick Bennett, Other: Ginger Jordan-Hillier.

There was a brief discussion of scope of what we hope to accomplish:

- Identify current information requirements for labels and MSDS of consumer products containing hazardous chemicals.

- Identify recommendations for harmonization of international requirements for chemical hazard communication or examples of good labeling requirements from other countries.
- Identify what information consumers need/want to know.
- What actions can be taken to strengthen and improve requirements of information available to consumers?

We decided to brainstorm at our next meeting to discuss the above topics, outline a schedule for discussions/information gathering/sharing needed to develop recommendations for inclusion in the final report to the Governor.

Homework assignment: for next meeting, subcommittee members are asked to be prepared to share discuss the topic of: 'what information should be included on product labels'. Bring relevant examples.

Green Chemistry:

R& D needs

Look to John Wise to provide USM info
and Mike Bilodeau for UMO

Contact (who will do this?) Ken Geiser at Lowell for info on optimal scale for University investment

Jim Lunt/PLA may be available for a future Green Chemistry work group meeting

Assignments:

Request update from Deb Rice on potential use of biomonitoring equipment at HETL

Presentation and Q&A Ken Cook Environmental Work Group: Body Burden

Condensed Power Point emailed by Ken Cook is large in size and I am emailing by separate email. Please note that the pagination is off (due to removed pages by EWG) and you are not missing any pages.

Ken Cook response on query from group on triggers for prioritizing chemicals of concern:

1. very Persistent, very Bioaccumulative, very Toxic
2. Volume in consumer products
3. Presence in People

Additional recommended strategies:

4. Inform the Public
- 5) Fix to safety
6. Tell Washington

Next meetings:

Wed March 7th, Room 105 Cross Office Building

Work Groups: NIH.NLM Household products database .Full Task Force: Env and Health Canada Overview of Categorization of Domestic Substances and Next Steps.